

The Oysterman brings city dining to Duxbury

New Business Profile

By Kate Bean
Clipper Contributor

From the outside, it's another quiet Duxbury night. Walk through the door of Duxbury's newest restaurant, the Oysterman, however, and you'll feel as though you just traveled the 40 miles north to Boston. Located on Railroad Avenue, the Oysterman has all the makings of a hip new establishment you'd find in the city with one major perk – it's located in your backyard. Owner and Duxbury resident Dermot Loftus moved to Duxbury two years ago from West Roxbury and immediately saw a business opportunity. Loftus recognized the limited dining options in and around Duxbury, as well as the lack restaurants consistently serving the town's own delicacy – oysters.

"These truly are the best oysters in the country," said Loftus. "We have all these fisherman working so hard and shipping the oysters all over the country, and yet there was no raw bar anywhere in town to sit down and eat them."

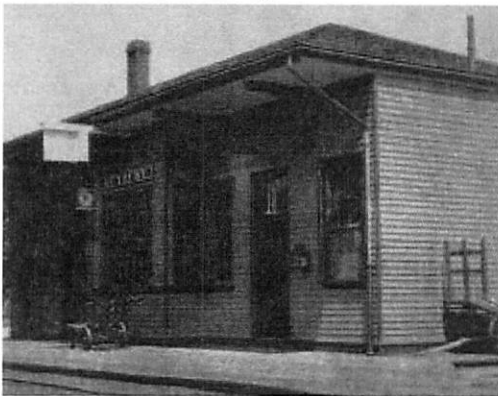
Originally from Bray, Ireland, Loftus moved to the US in 2003. While living in West Roxbury, Loftus and his wife, Brianna, decided they wanted a quieter place to raise their two children, Chloe and Cian. A harbor town much like Loftus' hometown in Ireland, Duxbury captured the couple's hearts immediately.

Loftus renovated the former Yo Taco building, which was originally the Duxbury train station, and he included many local touches. During construction, the original train tracks were discovered beneath the floor. That old track is now the foot rail at the base of the bar. The bar itself is framed with original barn board from an old barn next door. Its menu offers a full raw bar along with a mixed variety of dishes to accommodate all palates. Adding to its appeal are its hours – its kitchen stays open until 11 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays.

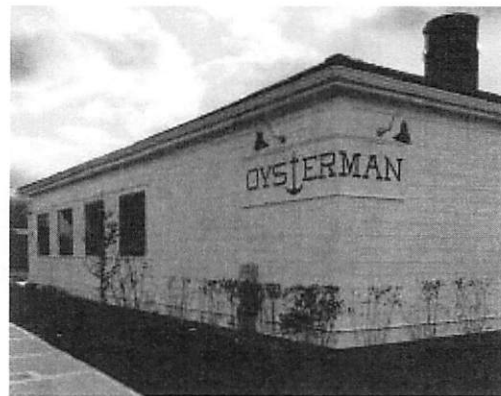
Loftus brought on Chris Schweiger as restaurant general manager, Brian McElhiney as kitchen lead, and many South Shore locals including Duxbury resident Chris Collins to complete the Oysterman team. Said Loftus, "Our team is very passionate about food, and it comes through in our dishes."

The Oysterman opened at the end of October, with its first night an open house for all of the fishermen and women who work hard harvesting the local oysters. Since then, business has been booming.

"We are so humbled by the response of the town," said Loftus. "We want the Oysterman to be a warm, comfortable atmosphere where people, local or visiting, can come in and enjoy and celebrate these local oysters."



The building now housing the new restaurant used to be a train station.



Located on Railroad Avenue, the restaurant has a raw bar that celebrates local oysters.